



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF FARMINGTON

*Church of the Open Hands*

26165 Farmington Road,  
Farmington Hills, MI 48334  
(248) 474-6170  
www.farmington-pres.org

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In preparing our hearts for worship, we will be dimming the lights in the narthex, indicating a time to quiet ourselves. Please enter the sanctuary quietly and in time to hear the welcome and announcements.

## June 9, 2024

# 3rd Sunday After Pentecost

### Prayer of Preparation

*Dear God, silence all voices within our minds but your own. Help us to seek and be able to follow your will. May our prayers be joined with those of our sisters and brothers in the faith, that together we may glorify your name and enjoy your fellowship forever. In Jesus' name, **Amen.***

### We Enter into God's Presence

\*Please stand in body or spirit

Prelude	<i>River Flows in You</i>	Yiruma
Welcome / Greetings		Pastor Bruce Mulder
<i>Signing of the Friendship Pad &amp; Prayer Cards</i>		
Congregational Life		Becca DeSloover
*Call to Worship—from <i>Psalms</i> 89:1-4		Becca DeSloover

L: I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever.

**P: With my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.**

L: I declare that your steadfast love is established forever.

**P: Your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.**

L: You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to my servant David:

"I will establish your descendants forever and build your throne for all generations."

**P: Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!**

L: Let us worship the Lord our God. Amen.

**1 God of the fertile fields, shaper of earth that yields our daily bread:  
forth from your bounteous hand come gifts your love has planned,  
that all in every land be clothed and fed.**

**2 We would be stewards true, holding in trust from you  
all that you give; help us in love to share,  
teach us like you to care for people everywhere, that all may live.**

**3 As grows the hidden seed to fruit that serves our need,  
so your reign grows. Let all our toil be used,  
no gift of yours abused, no humble task refused your love bestows.**

**4 God of the countryside, dear to the Christ who died to make us one:  
we pledge our lives anew in faithful love to you. Guide all we say and do. Your will be  
done.**

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and merciful God, we have stumbled and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the designs and desires of our own hearts. We have sinned against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.

**O Lord, have mercy upon us. Wash us clean and restore us.**

From the depths of your love, Good Shepherd, pardon and restore your Sheep.

**From your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus, forgive us all.**

*SILENCE*

O compassionate God, may we live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name. **Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness—from Romans 8:34; 2 Corinthians 5:17

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn?

**Only Christ, and Christ died for us; Christ rose for us.**

**Christ reigns in power for us; Christ prays for us.**

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

**Thanks be to God.**

## We Hear God's Word

Reading  
*New Revised Standard Version*

*Mark 4.26-34*

Becca DeSloover

### **The Parable of the Growing Seed**

<sup>26</sup> He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground <sup>27</sup> and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. <sup>28</sup> The earth produces of itself first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. <sup>29</sup> But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle because the harvest has come."

### **The Parable of the Mustard Seed**

<sup>30</sup> He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? <sup>31</sup> It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, <sup>32</sup> yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

### **The Use of Parables**

<sup>33</sup> With many such parables he spoke the word to them as they were able to hear it; <sup>34</sup> he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

Anthem	Therefore, Give Us Love	Daniel Moe
Sermon	<b>You Call That Power?</b>	Pastor Bruce Mulder

## We Respond to God's Word

Offertory & Doxology <i>Collection of Prayer Cards</i>		Pastor Bruce Mulder
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<b>Direct, control, suggest, this day, in all I design, do, or say, that all my powers, with all of their might, might serve you both day and night.</b>	arr. Shari Fiore
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Prayers of the People	Becca DeSloover
Prayer of Thanksgiving & The Lord's Prayer	Becca DeSloover

Almighty God, Lord of all mercies, as your servants, we give you all our thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.

**We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life, but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ.**

We pray, you will always give us such an awareness of your mercies that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives. By your Spirit help us in giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days.

**May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be pleasing and acceptable in your sight.**

For you alone are our Rock and Redeemer. We pray through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us to pray together:

**“Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.”**

### **We Follow God’s Word into the World**

\*Hymn of Sending# 612

*We Praise You, O God*

Julia C. Cory

**1 We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;  
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.  
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;  
we bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.**

**2 We worship you, God of our fathers and mothers;  
through trial and tempest our guide you have been.  
When perils o’ertake us, you will not forsake us,  
and with your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.**

**3 With voices united our praises we offer  
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.  
With you, Lord, beside us, your strong arm will guide us.  
To you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!**

Benediction

Pastor Bruce Mulder

Postlude

Blessed Assurance

Phoebe Palmer Knapp,  
arr. Mark Hayes

### **Worship Liturgist**

We welcome Becca DeSloover as today’s liturgist. Our liturgist for June 16<sup>th</sup> is Alvine Cooper. For information on serving as a liturgist to assist the pastor during worship, please contact Kari Gorman.

## **Memorial Day- Thank you, Scouts!**

Over the Memorial Day weekend Scouts from Troop 179, Crew 179 and Cub Pack 179 placed American flags in several local cemeteries to honor Veterans as well as participating in the local parade. These are the 3 Scout Units that FPCF sponsors and are very active in our community. Thank You Scouts and leaders!

## **Take a “Traveling Jesus” with you today!**

In the June FYI, Pastor Bruce exhorted us to take our faith with us no matter where we go or what we do. As a reminder to do this, members of the Nurture Ministry and Membership Committee will be handing out a pocket-sized Jesus that you can take with you wherever you go. As you go on vacation, camping, work in your garden, etc., take a photo and email or text it to Colleen Tavor ([cmtcounseling@gmail.com](mailto:cmtcounseling@gmail.com) or 248-302-9396) and we'll put it in the next FYI and on the screen in the narthex. Short stories or “God Moments” about your photo are also welcome! We can't wait to hear where Jesus will go with you this summer!

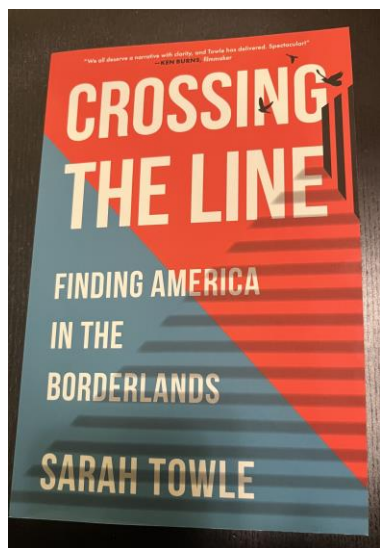
## **New Member Orientation-TODAY (Sunday, June 9, 11:30 – 12:30, Room 208/210)**

Are you looking to take the next step in your faith journey? Or just want to learn more about what the Church of the Open Hands is all about? This is an open invitation for anyone and everyone. You'll have an opportunity to hear the FPCF story and tell us yours. It's a special time to get to know each other and learn more about what God is doing in our community. We'd love for you to be a part of it!

## **Juneteenth Celebration at UMC Nardin Park**

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Farmington Area Juneteenth Celebration will take place over several days, **June 13-16 on-site at UMC Nardin Park, 29887 Eleven Mile Rd, Farmington Hills, MI**  
**Thursday, 6/13, 5-8 pm: Breaking Silence, MLK's 1967 Viet Nam Speech**  
**Friday, 6/14, 7-11pm: Annual Drive-in Family Movie Night**  
**Saturday, 6/15, 10am – 4pm: Community Festival**  
**Sunday, 6/16, 1:00 – 2:30pm: Healing Service in Fellowship Hall**

We also need volunteers for a variety of tasks. Talk to **Colleen Tavor** for details. It will be loads of family fun!



## **SAVE THE DATE: Author Book Launch coming to FPCF!**

Brought to you by the Social Justice Book Club & Mission Ministry, on Saturday, June 29, 6:30 – 8:00 pm, author Sarah Towles will be at FPCF to launch her new book, *Crossing the Line: Finding America in the Borderlands*. The book charts her journey from outrage to activism to abolition as she exposes, layer by broken layer, the deterrence, detention, deportation complex that is failing everyone except those who profit from it. Light snacks, desserts, and beverages will be served. A freewill

offering will be donated to Freedom House. A speaker from Freedom House will also be featured.

### **Cereal for Summer**

No child should go hungry. However, many kids who rely on receiving breakfast and lunch during the school year often face long summer days without enough to eat. Join the NINTH annual CEREAL FOR SUMMER CAMPAIGN and help us feed hungry children in our presbytery. The Mission Ministry will be accepting cereal donations from **now until June 30**. Special bins will be placed in the narthex. Thank you again for your continuing generosity in supporting this effort.

### **Name Tags**

Please let the office know if you should need a new name tag by emailing Carly or leaving a note on her desk. Contact her by email: [info@farmington-pres.org](mailto:info@farmington-pres.org) These are printed once per month to conserve on paper.

### **Church Security**

Although we're all eager to be outside and enjoy the warmer weather, be sure to take just a few extra seconds and make certain that doors are locked if you visit the church during off-hours. That includes removing any doorstops, resuming toggle switches to "lock mode" and giving the doors a tug to ensure they're locked. Thanks for keeping the building and our church staff safe.

### **Contacting Pastor Bruce**

If you'd like to connect with Pastor Bruce: [bruce.mulder@farmington-pres.org](mailto:bruce.mulder@farmington-pres.org) His information is also on the UCD app.

### **Bulletin Announcement Reminder**

All announcements must be turned in the week prior; no later than **Tuesday at 12pm** or they will not go in the bulletin until the following week. Announcement request must include the dates in which it should be placed and removed in the bulletin. Font Size: Arial Narrow, Size 14. It is best if the announcements are attached in a word document with an email. Moving forward, announcements will not be edited or written up from verbal or phone call requests. Please email them to [info@farmington-pres.org](mailto:info@farmington-pres.org) Additionally, as a reminder, you will need prior approval for inclusion of an activity in the church calendar. Contact the church office at [info@farmington-pres.org](mailto:info@farmington-pres.org) with any questions and/or submissions.

### **Preschool Open Enrollment**



The Preschool is now open for enrollment for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year. Please spread the word about our Preschool to friends and family who may be interested in enrolling. The program offers 2.5s, 3s and Pre-K (4s) classes.

Please visit the website: <https://farmingtonprespreschool.org/enroll/> or call the preschool: (248) 474-9752 to schedule a tour and/or pick up your enrollment forms.

### **FPCF's Shopping List for CARES**

Have you picked up your CARES shopping list yet? Look for it in the pew backs or the Mission bulletin board. Take it with you to the store. The items on the list are those most needed by the guests at CARES. Here is a suggestion: If you see a BOGO Sale (Buy One, Get One), pick up the free item for CARES.

### **Adult Bible Discussion – The Wired Word**

Join our Bible discussion **Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in 208/210**. Advance copies are available the Saturday before by email. To get on the email list, please contact Tom Neal at [ttneal@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ttneal@sbcglobal.net).

### **Hospitality Time Schedule**

You are invited to bring ONE food item on ONE Sunday each month. Your Sunday depends on the first letter of your last name. It would be greatly appreciated if you are also able to help with set-up or clean-up. Please note healthy options are welcome as well such as fruit, eggs, cheese & crackers, veggies etc. Here's the upcoming schedule:

June 16: Last names beginning L-R

June 23: Last names beginning S-Z

June 30: Last names beginning A-D

July 7: Last names beginning E-K

### **On-Call List for Personnel**

The Personnel Committee is putting together an on-call list of people who could be available to volunteer to staff the office in the event that all office staff are sick or simultaneously out of the office. Please email Pastor Bruce [bruce.mulder@farmington-pres.org](mailto:bruce.mulder@farmington-pres.org), Bob Van Hamme [mvanhamme@twmi.rr.com](mailto:mvanhamme@twmi.rr.com) or Sally Kirsten [sckirsten@hotmail.com](mailto:sckirsten@hotmail.com) for more information or to sign up to volunteer.

### **COVID-19 or Flu Symptoms**

Please be mindful if you have symptoms, stay home, and take care of yourself and others.

### **News from the Church Office**

If you or someone you know has an administrative background and would be interested in working in the office for six hours per week, please let Sally Kirsten or Bob Van Hamme know. Bob Van Hamme [mvanhamme@twmi.rr.com](mailto:mvanhamme@twmi.rr.com) or Sally Kirsten [sckirsten@hotmail.com](mailto:sckirsten@hotmail.com).

### **Summer Office Hours**

Summer hours are in effect beginning next week (June -the office is open **on Tuesday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.** and **closed on Monday's and Friday's**. As a reminder, please contact the church office via telephone at (248) 474-6170 or email at

[info@farmington-pres.org](mailto:info@farmington-pres.org). It will be a very good idea to call ahead if you need to come into the building.

**Office and Church Donations**

Please note, regarding dropping off items and or donations to the church office, prior approval is required for ANY donations. If you leave something on the desk of Pastor Bruce and/or Carly’s desk, kindly leave a message of what the item is, what needs to be done with it, who is leaving the item and whom to contact.

**Upcoming Church Office Closure**

The church office will be closed on Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup> in observance of Juneteenth and on Thursday, July 4 in observance of the Independence Day holiday.

First Presbyterian Church Staff	
Transitional Pastor	The Rev. Bruce Mulder
Ministers of the Church	Members of the Congregation
Pastoral Care Parish Associate	The Rev. Craig S. Aue
Minister of Music & Organist/Pianist	Shari Fiore-Bloom
Office Administrative Assistant	Carly Vivio
Office Assistant	Amanda Schreiber
AV Tech Intern	Lidia Neathamer





**Farmington First Presbyterian Church**

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